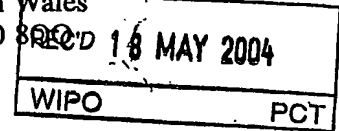




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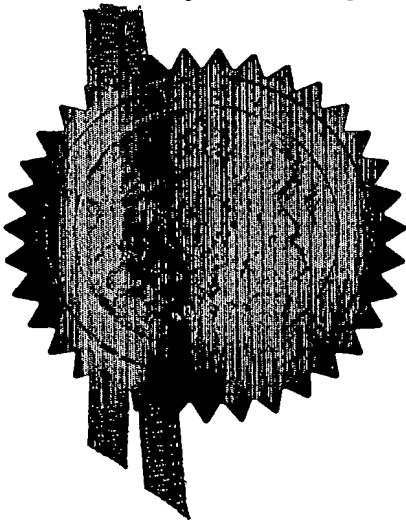
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OXFORDSHIRE OX15 0SY

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If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

ENGLAND

8203325002

4. Title of the invention

HIGH-CHAIRS

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

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4361556001

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8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

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- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
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Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)

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I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

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Graham F Coles

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GRAHAM F COLES ☎ 01494 677181

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1

High-Chairs

5 This invention relates to high-chairs as used for babies and for infants.

According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a high-chair in which a seat having a back-rest
10 is carried by front and rear leg-supports, wherein the seat, its back and the front leg-support are provided together in one piece.

The seat, its back-rest and the front leg-support may be provided together as a one-piece moulding. The moulding
15 may be a laminate having a core of wood (for example, ply-wood), plastics or a material of honeycomb structure, and faced with a wood veneer or plastics (for example, having a melamine content such as that sold under the
20 Registered Trade Mark FORMICA).

The rear leg-support, which may be provided by a pair of tubular legs, may be pivoted to the one-piece member so that the high-chair can be collapsed with the rear leg-
25 support folded onto the front leg-support.

A high-chair in accordance with the present invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

30 Figures 1 and 2 are, respectively, side and front elevations of the high-chair according to the invention; and

35 Figures 3 and 4 are perspective views of the high-chair of the invention from above and below respectively.

2

Referring to Figures 1 to 4, the high-chair involves a one-piece, alongate moulding 1 to which a pair of tubular-steel legs 2 are pivoted for rearwardly-inclined support of the high-chair in its erect condition. The moulding 1 is contoured along its length to define for the erect condition, a substantially-horizontal portion 3 that forms the seat of the chair, a substantially-upright portion 4 curved up from the rear of the portion 2 to form a back-rest to the seat, and a longer portion 5 curved down from the front of the seat-portion 2 to provide a forwardly-inclined front leg-support for the chair. The width of the moulding 1 varies along its length also, narrowing down from the top of the back-rest portion 4 to run into the rear of the seat-portion 3, and then increasing slightly towards the front of the seat-portion 3. Substantially the same width is held from the front of the seat-portion 3 down to near the bottom of the leg-support portion 5, where the moulding 1 splays out to form foot projections 6 for floor-contact.

The tubular legs 2, which are interconnected by a cross-piece 7, are mounted on pivots 8 within respective brackets 9 secured to either side under the seat-portion 3. They are held extended rearwardly so as to maintain the erect condition of the high-chair, by snap engagement of a tubular-steel frame 10 with a socket 11 mounted on the underside of the seat-portion 3. In this respect, the frame 10 is mounted on pivots 12 between the legs 2, and the action of engaging the frame 10 with the socket 11 extends the legs 2 rearwardly. Engagement of the frame 10 with the socket 11 is maintained, so maintaining the rearward extension of the legs 2 and the erect condition of the high-chair, by the weight of the chair and the normal, added downward pressure on it in use, tending to push the legs 2 rearwardly.

3

The high-chair can be collapsed simply by withdrawing the frame 10 from engagement with the socket 11. This is achieved by lifting the legs 2 from the floor and pushing them forward to pivot about the brackets 9. In the fully-collapsed condition, the legs 2 are folded forwards onto the underside of the portion 5, and the high-chair can be re-erected from this simply by pulling the legs 2 rearwardly and re-engaging the frame 10 with the socket 11. A basket or other container 13 is hung within the frame 10 and can be removed for the collapsed condition, or while the high-chair is in the erect condition, simply by unhitching or otherwise detaching it from the frame 10.

The brackets 9 used for pivoting the legs 2 to the moulding 1, also serve for the attachment of a steel tube 14 that provide arm-rests to the seat. More particularly, the tube 14 has portions 15 at either end which curve upwardly from the brackets 9 to form the arm-rests either side of the seat-portion 3. The portions 15 at their upper ends, bend round the back of the back-rest portion 4 to be interconnected by a straight portion 16 of the tube 14 that is held to the portion 4 by brackets 17.

A forwardly-extending plastics tray 18 of the high-chair is carried by a U-shape tubular-steel frame 19 which has a pivotal mount 20 at each end for engaging with the tube 14. More particularly, the mounts 20 engage releasably with the tube 14 at the tops of the arm-rest portions 15 respectively, where they bend into the portion 16. In fitting the frame 19 to the chair, it is positioned straddling the front of the back-rest portion 4 with the mounts 20 projecting just beyond it on either side. The frame 19 is then pulled forwards slightly to engage the mounts 20 with the tube 14 where the arm-rest portions 15 bend into the portion 16. Each mount 20 has the form of

4

- an elbow that is open on its inside (see Figure 3) so that it 'cups' onto the tube 14 around the bend, and a manually-releasable catch (not shown) then becomes operative to hold it there. The frame 19, and with it the tray 18, is accordingly in this way firmly secured to the chair, but can be freed when desired, by releasing the catch and pushing the frame 19 slightly rearwards to disengage the mounts 20 from the tube 14.
- 10 The underside of the tray 18 has resilient-plastics sockets 21 to either side for snapping onto the two arms respectively of the tubular frame 19, and a manually-releasable clip 22 for clipping onto it centrally. Furthermore, a slide-mechanism 23 under the tray 18 is
- 15 operable to allow adjustment of the tray-position, forwards or rearwards, relative to the frame 19; the sockets 21 are free to slide along the arms of the frame 19 as appropriate during the adjustment.
- 20 The frame 19, with or without the tray 18 attached, can be swung up from the horizontal into the vertical plane of the back-rest portion 4. In this respect, frame 19 is pivoted to each mount 20, but is held fast until a sprung pin (not shown) of the mount 20 is released manually.
- 25 When the pin is released, the frame 19 is freed for pivotal movement as required, for example, when an infant or baby is to sit in the chair or is to leave it.
- 30 Cushioning of the chair-seat and back-rest portions 3 and 4 for comfort of the occupant is provided by a cover 24 which also extends down from the front of the portion 3 into the portion 5 to lie under the knees of an infant occupant. The cover 24 has appropriate apertures 25 and 26 (Figure 3) where attachment of harness (not shown) to
- 35 the seat portion 3 is to be made for child restraint and safety.

5

The portion 5 has a series of transverse slots 27 spaced from one another at progressively-increasing distances below the seat portion 3. A plate 28 is entered in one or other of the slots 27 to provide a footrest at the appropriate height for the occupant of the chair. The plate 28 engages resiliently with a plastics moulding 29 attached to the underside of the portion 5 behind the slots 27, for its retention in the respective slot 27. Adjustment of height of the footrest is made simply by pulling the plate 28 to release it from the moulding 29 and slot 27, and pushing it into another slot 27 at the appropriate height, to re-engage it with the moulding 23.

The moulding 1 may be a laminate having a core of plywood or material of honeycomb structure, and external skins of wood veneer or a melamine-formaldehyde methanal resin such as that sold under the Registered Trade Mark FORMICA.

1/4

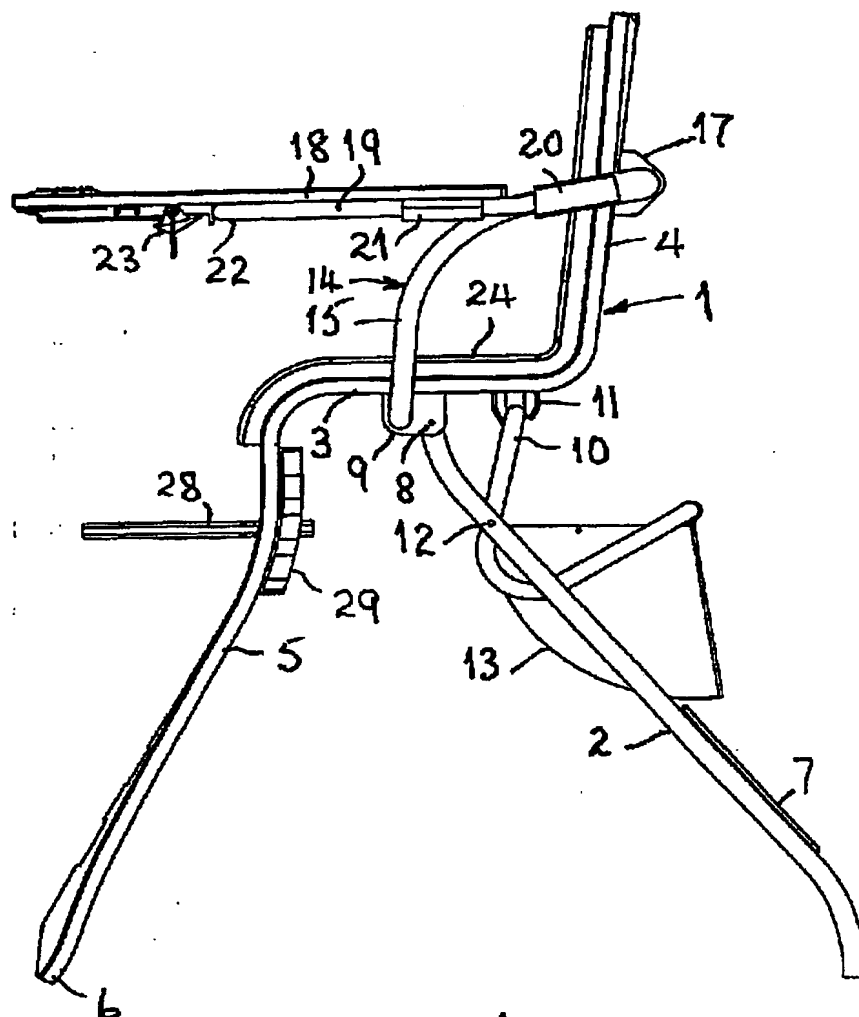


Fig. 1

2/4

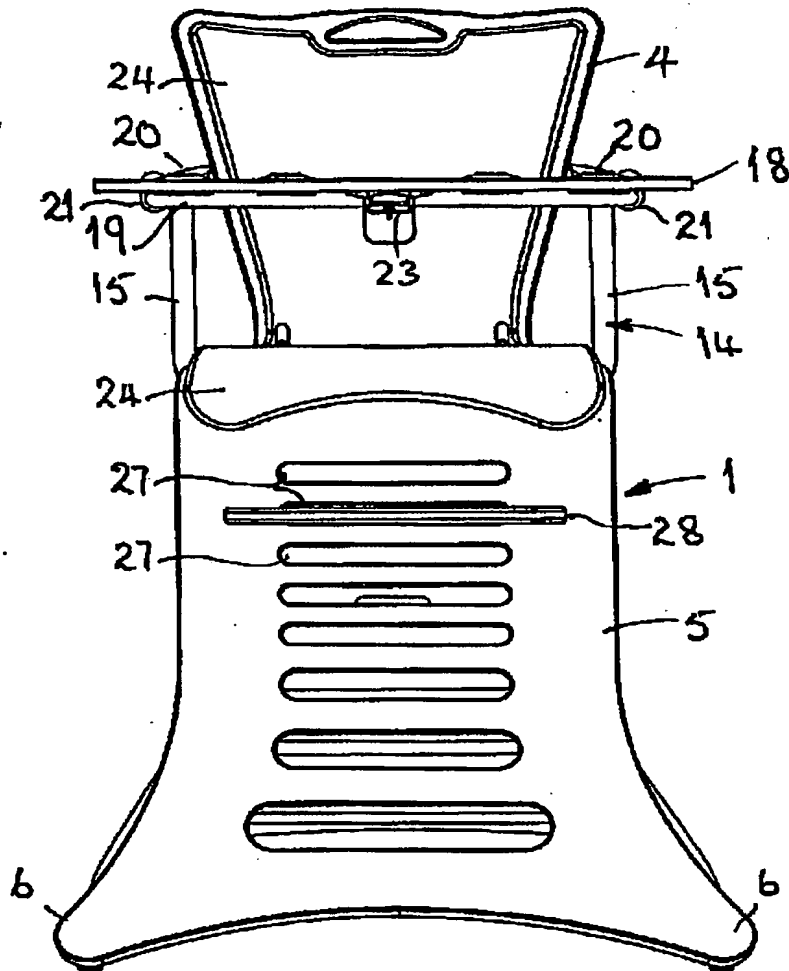


Fig. 2

3/4

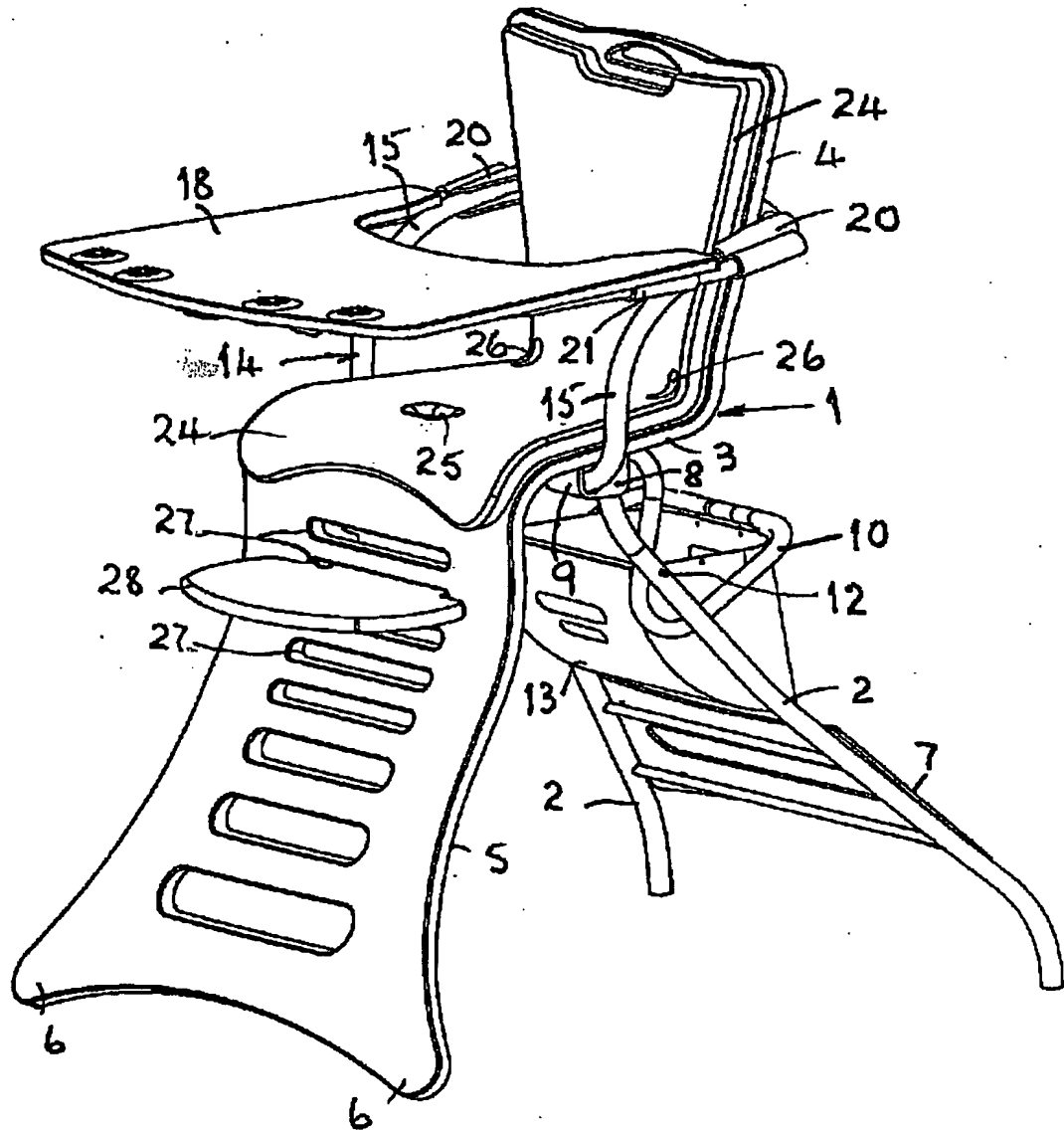


Fig. 3

4/4

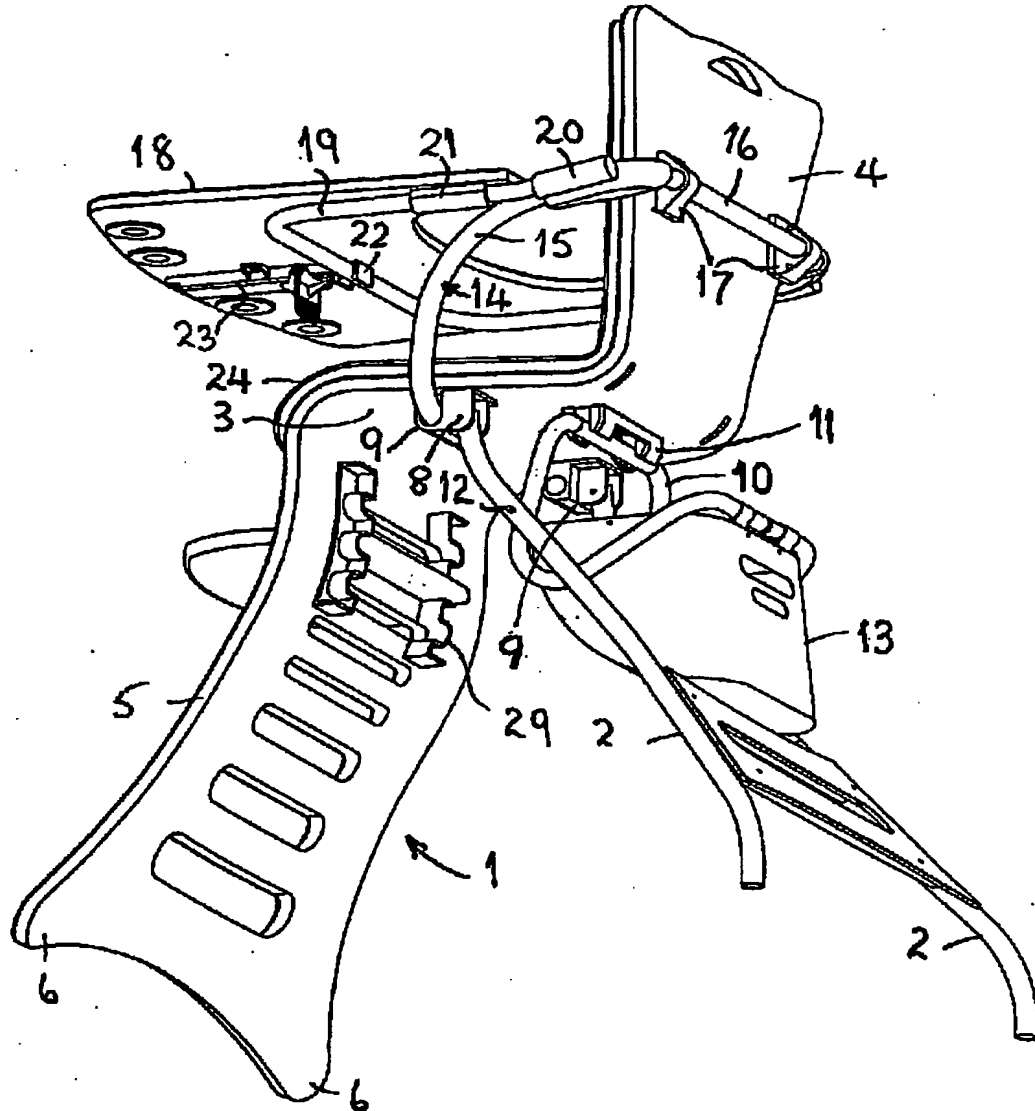


Fig. 4

PCT/GB2004/001393



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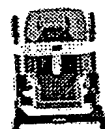
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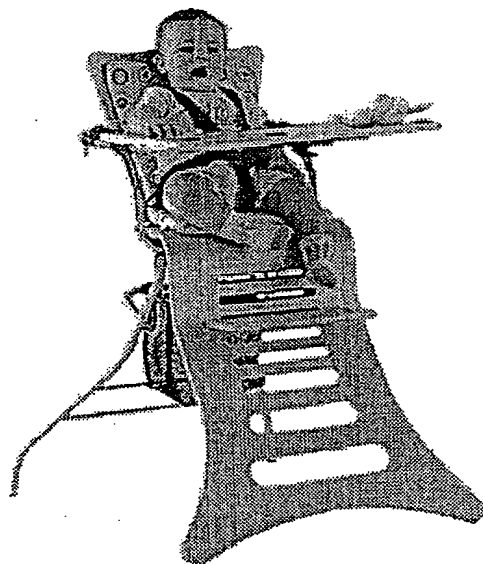
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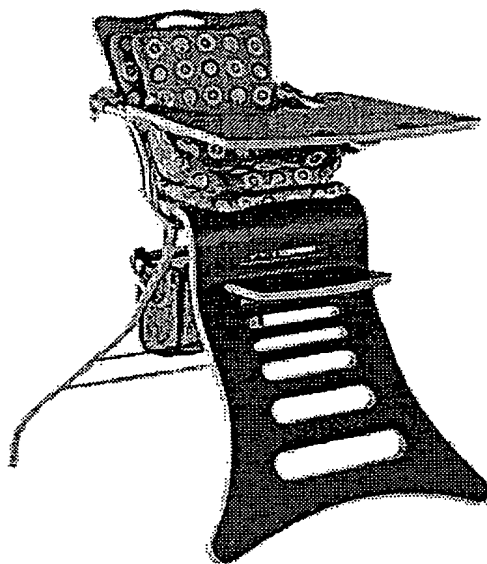
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